

CLAIMS

1. A method for operating an electronic program guide comprising the following steps:
logging an amount of time that a particular channel is selected for viewing;
and
generating a query to identify channels based upon a percentage of the time that the channels are selected.
2. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the following steps:
presenting, to the viewer, a list of the channels identified by the query; and
ordering the channels within the list according to the percentage of time that the channels are selected for viewing so that channels which are selected a higher percentage of the time appear at one place in the list and channels which are selected a lower percentage of the time appear at another place in the list.
3. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of generating a query to identify channels which have been selected at least a threshold amount of time to eliminate rarely selected channels from identification.

- 1 4. An electronic program guide resident in a computer-readable storage
2 medium and executable on a processor to perform the steps of the method
3 recited in claim 1.
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- 5 5. A viewer computing unit programmed to perform the steps of the method
6 recited in claim 1.
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- 8 6. A computer-readable storage medium which directs a computer to perform
9 the steps of the method recited in claim 1.
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- 11 7. A method for operating an electronic program guide comprising the
12 following steps:
13 logging an amount of time that a particular channel is selected for viewing;
14 generating a query to identify channels based upon a percentage of the time
15 that the channels are selected; and
16 saving the query in a hierarchic query structure.
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